

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6247

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and acquire new technologies to inspect and screen air cargo on passenger aircraft to ensure transportation security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop and acquire new technologies to inspect and screen air cargo on passenger aircraft to ensure transportation security, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. AIR CARGO SECURITY SCREENING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title IV of the
5 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.)
6 is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 432. AIR CARGO SECURITY SCREENING.**

2 “(a) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND PROCURE-
3 MENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES.—The Secretary shall re-
4 search, develop, and procure new technologies to inspect
5 and screen air cargo carried on passenger aircraft at the
6 earliest date possible.

7 “(b) USE OF EXISTING CHECKED BAGGAGE EXPLO-
8 SIVE DETECTION EQUIPMENT AND SCREENERS.—Exist-
9 ing checked baggage explosive detection equipment and
10 screeners shall be utilized to screen air cargo carried on
11 passenger aircraft to the greatest extent practicable at
12 each airport until technologies developed under subsection
13 (a) are available.

14 “(c) ACTIVITIES TO ENSURE INCREASES IN CARGO
15 INSPECTIONS.—The Assistant Secretary of Homeland Se-
16 curity (Transportation Security Administration) shall
17 work with air carriers and airports to ensure that the
18 screening of cargo carried on passenger aircraft, as de-
19 fined in section 44901(g)(5) of title 49, United States
20 Code, increases incrementally each quarter.

21 “(d) QUARTERLY REPORT.—Not later than 45 days
22 after the last day of each quarter of a fiscal year, the As-
23 sistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Home-
24 land Security of the House of Representatives and the
25 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
26 the Senate a report on air cargo inspection statistics by

1 airport and air carrier detailing the incremental progress
2 being made to meet the requirements of section
3 44901(g)(2) of title 49, United States Code.”.

4 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
5 contained in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by insert-
6 ing after the item relating to section 431 the following:

“Sec. 432. Air cargo security screening.”.

